

bloom of youth, and there was a nervous anxiety and restlessness about her which showed me how much depended on her success.

We took leave of Miss Williams with a promise of soon seeing her again, and found waiting at our hotel Mr. Hindon, an eminent copper-plate engraver, who had first suggested to us Mary's capabilities for the art about which we had been endeavoring to learn something.

"Mr. Hindon wrote me word that you were here, and I have called to see if I can be of any service," he said, in the first instance.

"Indeed you can," I replied, "of the greatest, and I wonder I never thought of you before." So, after relating our morning's exploration, I asked him how long it would be before a girl could earn a living, in the pursuit of the work, and if it were remunerative.

"My own experience—first, I was, at one time, a wood engraver—is, that it brings a sure return for all the time and trouble spent in acquiring the necessary knowledge, and that, in the course of learning it, the second year should be devoted to practice, but after receiving some reward for work, which could scarcely be expected to be very remunerative, but perhaps as much so as it would be in any other business."

"I am sometimes late," he muttered, and, taking up his lat, said, "I am in a desperate hurry, and have only a few moments to spare."

"And those, Richard, you must give to me. My boy, with whom are you? Where do you go? Do not think Mrs. Reed has willingly told me all this; but I have a right to know all."

"I took hold of his hand and drew him down on a chair near me, and said—

"Richard, I am your mother, and there is no one on earth so much your friend. Tell me, my boy, who are your companions, and where you spend your evenings. I will not blame you; it may be only outward circumstances and not vice which is leading you astray. If I can help you, I will."

"Poor Richard! Shall I ever forget how the tears coursed each other down his cheeks? And yet not a muscle of his face moved, and but for those tears he seemed almost to stone. I drew my chair still nearer to him, and he looked at me and again. Presently he told me all his woes; for to a youth not hardened in crime these early troubles were to him as bitter perhaps as any sorrow of his after-life. He related to me how some of his companions had seduced him to the billiard-table, where he played almost nightly, and which had left him without resources. Even his watch and pretty breast-pin were gone."

"And what, my boy, could be the end of this but dishonour?"

"No, no, mother! a hundred times no!"

"But how could you carry this on, Richard, without some such end?"

"There was no honor for a moment. Presently, as I was parsing his hair off his forehead, 'I should have gone to sea,' he almost whispered.

"I shook from head to foot, and did not speak. The boy felt my emotion, suddenly he rose up, and, looking me in the face, shouted, 'What have I done? Mrs. Reed! Mrs. Reed!' But no Mrs. Reed came. He rushed out of the room and returned in a moment with a glass of water, for, though I had not asked for any, I had so far forgot that I looked in my eyes, and he poured the moment I was alarmed; the sensation was new to me, but the cold water Richard was forcing into my lips, and the cold air from the window suddenly thrown open, revived me. Then it was that I looked down at my boy's cheeks. He knelt at my feet, he rubbed my hands; in his distraction he would have promised—did promise—everything."

"I think of leaving for a few hours was impossible, and Mrs. Reed having returned from her short walk, I hastily made some arrangements for the night, sent a messenger with a note to Richard's employers, and then he and I, after a hour had elapsed, went out, and in an open field near the house we again talked the matter over. Richard was determined nothing should tempt him to visit a billiard room again—no, nothing."

"It is a rash promise, Richard, and one you will not be able to keep."

"Mamma, do you think I have no strength of mind?"

"No more than I have, or any one else, when I do a good action against a bad temptation. In question, prayer will give you this strength, and frequently boys forget prayers when they leave home."

"I looked in his face, which the telltale blush had overspread."

"Richard, I think no harder of you than of myself. At your age I did not predict, certainly, but it is my having suffered in another way, which makes me know so well how to feel for you, and to know also how weak we all are to help ourselves against temptation. There is but one safeguard against it—prayer. Help may not come the first hour, but the second, not perhaps for many hours of days, but it will come, and while you pray you will not sin."

"Do not, my boy, rush from one evil to a worse. The sea is almost unexceptionably the romance of every boy's life, but it has deprived me, as well as sunk waves, and one reared as you have been would feel all the misery in a tenfold degree. It has never been the one aim of your life to become a sailor. If it had been, difficulties and misery would assume other aspects. But you are not a sailor, and the sea is a refuge from present troubles—perhaps from debt. Is it so, Richard?"

"No answer came."

"Tell me how far you have exceeded your allowance, which I know has been very limited by comparison with that of many others; but when you left home you thought it wealth. You cannot be very much in debt, but much or little, tell me the truth, and you shall be helped."

"I owe three pounds, and was very reluctantly spoken to."

"I did not reply for a moment."

"It is a large sum, my boy. To whom do you owe it?"

"To several fellows. I have borrowed it at different times."

"And what for?" I asked, as I looked up and again saw the face no longer blushing, but positively crimson. "Tell me candidly, Richard, if you wished to be helped out of your difficulty, I will promise, but I must know the particulars."

"For billiards, mamma." He hissed the words.

"Well, my boy, a gambler is a despicable character. I never thought of a son of mine would sink so low, and—"

"A gambler! That is a hard word, mamma. And an ugly one, too, Richard. It is not for money that I play, but for the gentlemanly character of a Christian or of a gentleman, like suggestive of the word, earned the detestable name. My boy, it is a right of degradation which yawns underneath the aim of what is to you a pleasant excitement. Cannot enter into the details of the history of a gambler's life, but it is so horrible, I am so excited that I cannot see my way clear for your future. Let us say no more now. I shall be calmer after a while."

Before night had arrived the tangled skein seemed another. There was no time to write to my husband beyond saying that my stay would be prolonged for a day or two longer. I saw no good in telling Richard what I meant to do, he went to his work in the morning, and I to the Armstrongs. I told my tale to sympathizing hearts ready to help me in my need.

"Richard is in a different position from when he first came to London; he knows a little of his business, and his manners are less brusque."

ought to be with. You see, mamma, that Richard is a well-educated youth, and with very superior manners, and though his employers are well-to-do people, yet their trade is rather rough, and some of the young men are a queer lot."

"But," I remarked, "Richard must learn to walk before he runs, and it is all uphill work. If he has superior manners and education, and among rough people, I do not see that he should become rough also."

"I think association goes a great way towards forming a youth's character, and I do not say that, for that, it is to be hoped, is a matter of principle, or ought to be," observed Mrs. Reed.

"I do not perceive the roughness you speak of," I remarked.

"I am not entirely that; but Mr. Richard likes to go often to places of amusement, and much oftener he is kept very late at his business, sometimes till 11 or 12 at night, and all this does not tend to make you more refined, or, in my opinion, a better man. I often wish that he were living near, so that he could be more under your care."

"It was as if I had suddenly received a heavy blow, and I felt determined to tell my mother, and with my mind so disturbed that I did not even take in the sense of all she was saying. That he might be fond of amusement was natural, but frequent late hours I did not understand. As it was, at this moment Richard came in, expecting that I had arrested him. His joyous face was at once overcast at seeing the gravity of mine."

"What is it, mother?" he asked, in alarm.

"Mrs. Reed has just left the room."

"I have been inquiring all about your habits, Richard, and am vexed that you should be kept so late in business. It is not usual, is it?"

"The conscience-stricken boy colored up to his temples, and in a moment became pale as lead. 'I am sometimes late,' he muttered, and, taking up his lat, said, 'I am in a desperate hurry, and have only a few moments to spare.'"

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his bearing is more manly," said the eldest Mr. Armstrong. "I think I may venture to give you a little more information as to a house at the West End, altogether different from where he is now, provided you are assured that his character is unimpaired."

"I answered according to my own conviction, that nothing was wrong there; and away I went on my errand, paying mentally the whole way that if my mission was for the boy's good, I might be successful."

"I had long been a story short, I succeeded, though the salary was very small, but he was to be in the house. Then, all due overtures being paid to Richard's present employers, money given to the misguided boy to release himself from his present position, and I had inserted upon sealing, and a billiard room present being made to kind Mrs. Reed, I had the satisfaction of knowing that he was in a better position so near his sisters that they could look after him, and that, in the course of his old companions and friends, and, in the end, he could now look up with a light heart, and I hoped, would make his way in the world. His last words at parting were, 'You have saved me from a life of misery, and I shall never forget you. My mother has not told my father.'"

"My boy," I replied, "I have concealed a thing from your father in my life, and I certainly am not going to begin now. Your father has never deceived that you should dread him, and he will think me such a fool, you know, mamma, to give away at the first temptation."

"Possibly he will, and you have passed a correct opinion on your conduct. You and I are now doubly armed to become wiser in the future. I leave you in perfect confidence, with my love only to have faith that God's help will come if you ask it. No longer prayer is needed. God help me, and let me be true to the end of one thing be sure—Heaven is my goal. Do not act the fool before the high majesty of God, and yet be afraid of your father's opinion; that is cowardly as well as foolish."

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"Mamma, you do use hard words, and he will think me such a fool, you know, mamma, to give away at the first temptation."

seat with her face buried in her hands. Startling her, Alice's face flushed as much as it had been before. "Oh, mamma, did you call me?" she asked, trying to look unconcerned.

"No, my child, but the loss of your sisters has had a visible effect on you. It has made you nervous," said the mother.

"Has it, mamma? I am not aware of it," she replied, with a sign of relief.

"Not for worlds would I have forced her confidence, or hurt her feelings by the slightest allusion to a malady so new to her—no, in which a mother finds herself powerless to help. I could but tenderly watch the unfolding of her destiny, which I felt was approaching."

[To be continued in our next issue.]

SPECIAL NOTICES. UNION REPUBLICAN TICKET.

STATE GOVERNOR. Major-General John W. Geary.

JUDICIARY. PRESIDENT JUDGE. HON. JOSEPH ALLISON.

ASSOCIATE JUDGES. HON. WILLIAM S. PIERCE. F. CARROLL BREWSTER, Esq.

CITY OFFICERS. RECEIVER OF TAXES. RICHARD FELTZ.

CITY COMMISSIONER. CAPTAIN HENRY CONNER.

COUNTY OFFICERS. CONGRESS. First District—Hon. CHARLES O'NEILL.

Second District—Hon. LEONARD MYERS. Third District—Hon. WILLIAM D. KELLEY.

Fourth District—Hon. WILLIAM D. KELLEY. Fifth District—CALSB N. TAYLOR.

SENATOR. First District—JEREMIAH NICHOLS.

RECORDER OF DEEDS. MAJOR GENERAL JOSHUA T. OWEN.

PROTHONOTARY DISTRICT COURT. JAMES McMANES.

CLERK OF COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS. JOHN G. BUTLER.

CORONER. SAMUEL DANIELS.

ASSEMBLY. First District—GEORGE W. GHEGHAN.

Second District—ROBERT C. TITMAYR. Third District—WILLIAM W. WATT.

Fourth District—JOSEPH T. THOMAS. Sixth District—JAMES FREEBORN.

Seventh District—JAMES SUBERS. Eighth District—JAMES N. KERNS.

Ninth District—FRED. DITTMAN. Tenth District—EDWARD W. DAVIS.

Eleventh District—W. J. DONOHUGH. Twelfth District—ALEXANDER ADAIR.

Thirteenth District—JOS. C. KENNER. Fourteenth District—W. M. WORRELL.

Fifteenth District—GEORGE DE HAYEN, Jr. Sixteenth District—DAVID WALLACE.

Seventeenth District—EDWARD G. LEE. Eighteenth District—JAMES N. MARKS.

By order of Union Republican City Executive Committee. WILLIAM R. LEEDS, President.

JOHN L. HILL, Secretary. JOSEPH S. ALLEN, Secretary. 9 15 1st.

OFFICE OF THE LEHIGH COAL AND NAVIGATION COMPANY. The Stockholders of this company are hereby notified that the Board of Managers have determined to allow the holders of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company's stock the privilege of exchanging their shares for shares of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company's stock on the 8th of September next, after the closing of business at 3 P. M. of the day.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE CRESCENT CITY OIL COMPANY will be held at their office, No. 238 S. THIRD STREET, on the 10th of October, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the election of officers.

BACHELOR'S HAIR DYE. Harmless, reliable, instantaneous. The only perfect dye. No disarrangement, no ridiculous tints, but true to nature, black or brown. GENUINE IS SIGNED WILLIAM A. BACHELOR, ALSO, Repeating Extract of Hair, prevents dandruff, preserves and beautifies the hair, prevents baldness, good by all druggists. Factory No. 91 BARCLAY ST., N. Y.

JUST PUBLISHED. THE NEW YORK MUSEUM. The Nineteenth Edition of their FOUR LECTURES, entitled—PHILOSOPHY OF MARRIAGE. To be had, free, or four stamps, by addressing Secretary New York Museum of Anatomy, No. 615 BROADWAY, New York.

INSTRUCTION. PARDEE SCIENTIFIC COURSE IN LAFAYETTE COLLEGE.

In addition to the general course of instruction in the Department, designed to lay a substantial basis of knowledge and scientific culture, students can pursue these branches which are essentially practical and technical.

ENGINEERING—Civil, Topographical, and Mechanical; MINING and METALLURGY; AGRICULTURE and the ARTS. There is also an opportunity for special study of TRADE and COMMERCE, of AGRICULTURE, of LITERATURE and PHILOLOGY, and of the HISTORY and SCIENCE of our country.

For Circulars apply to President CATTELL, or to Prof. R. B. YOUTMAN, Clerk of the Faculty, EASTON, Pennsylvania, April 4, 1866. 5 10

HAMILTON INSTITUTE FOR YOUNG LADIES.

Being open to pupils in the public schools, with which he has been connected for the last twenty-three years, the Institute will OPEN A DAY AND BOARDING SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES.

No. 2813 CHESTNUT STREET, ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18. This Institution is designed to rival the best seminaries in the country.

CIRCULARS. Containing particulars and other information in relation to this Institution, can be had until the 1st of September. No. 640 N. TWELFTH STREET. 8 27

MONSIEUR ALEXANDRE WOLOWSKI'S CLASSES FOR PIANO AND SINGING. By his entirely new simplified system, are now open.

Those wishing to read music at sight, keep time perfectly, and sing in concert, choir, or in private, accompany any song of piece by a new method of harmony, sing or perform in concert, choir, or in private, can be had at No. 748, WASHINGTON SQUARE. Ch. dress admitted. 8 21 Mar.

THE WEST PENN SQUARE SEMINARY FOR YOUNG LADIES. No. 5 S. MERRICK STREET. will open October 1, in addition to the regular course, classes will be formed for pupils who wish to pursue only the higher branches. For terms, etc., application may be made to either of the Principals, a fee of 2 o'clock. MARY E. HOFF, No. 2023 GREEN STREET. M. R. HOFF, No. 210 W. LOGAN SQUARE.

THE CLASSICAL AND ENGLISH SCHOOL OF H. D. GREGORY, A. M., No. 1108 MARKET STREET, will REOPEN ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.

DELAWARE LAWN ACADEMY.—ENGLISH Classical, Mathematics, Boarding School for Boys, Delaware, N. J., twelve miles above city—hourly accessible. Circulars obtained at No. 11 South SEVENTH STREET, No. 124 1/2 HUNTING STREET, or L. BARROWS, Principal.